



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Governmental & Legislative
Affairs Director

May 26, 2015

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1315 (Alejo) – As amended April 21, 2015 – **OPPOSE**

Dear Assembly Member Gomez:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully opposes AB 1315, legislation that would prohibit public agencies from delegating to a contractor the development of a plan used to prevent or reduce water pollution or runoff on a public works contract. We agree with the numerous public agencies and other organizations that oppose this measure, as it would add significant new costs and inefficiencies in the delivery of public infrastructure projects.

On projects that encompass at least one acre of land, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) must be developed to ascertain potential sources of stormwater pollution on construction sites and identify the control measures needed to be taken during the construction process. SWPPPs must be written, amended and certified by qualified personnel who are knowledgeable in the principles and practice of erosion and sediment controls and possess the skills to assess conditions at the construction site that could impact stormwater quality. Public agencies rely on the expertise of qualified SWPPP developers, known as QSDs, to conduct this work, as agencies do not have the resources nor the regular workload required to employ such personnel throughout the year.

The contractor is in the best position to develop the most effective SWPPP for the particular site-specific conditions and coordinate the plan with the optimal construction sequence to maximize efficiency and reduce costs.

SWPPPs must be modified throughout the construction process as conditions change, and it would be impractical, and inefficient, for a public agency to monitor daily construction activities being done by a contractor, and adjust the SWPPP as the project progresses. AB 1315 would add direct costs to public agencies by requiring them to hire or contract with expert personnel, and indirect costs by delaying projects.

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For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino must respectfully oppose AB 1315. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Ramos', with a stylized, flowing script.

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: The Honorable Luis Alejo, California State Assembly
County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation